

Remarks

Favorable reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

By the present Amendment, claims 4 and 5 are cancelled, claims 1, 6, 7, 8, 13, 14 and 17 are amended, and new claim 21 is added. Claims 1-3, 6 and 16-21 are now pending. Moreover, the specification has been amended. None of the amendments present any new matter.

Applicant notes with appreciation the indication of allowability of claims 6-20.

Claims 8-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 8 has been amended to overcome this rejection. No new matter has been added by the amendment to claim 8. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph rejection of claims 8-14.

Claims 6, 7, and 13-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claims 1, 7, 8, 13 and 14 have been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph rejection. Furthermore, the specification has been amended to clarify the relationship of the vinyl butyral resin relative to the epoxy resin. No new matter has been added by these amendments to the specification or claims. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully requests withdraw of the 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, rejection.

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,482,637, hereinafter *Rau*. Without acquiescing in the Examiner's grounds for rejection and for the purpose of expediting prosecution, Applicant has amended claim 1 to incorporate many of the limitations of claim 6 (which was indicated as being allowable). Applicant believes these amendments make claim 1 allowable.

Claims 2 and 3 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons. Moreover, these claims add further features and limitations which render them separately allowable.

Claim 6 was indicated as being allowable if written to overcome the 35 U.S.C. § 112 rejection and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claim. Claim 6 has been written in independent form to overcome the rejection of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, claim 6 is allowable.

Claim 7 depends from claim 6 and is allowable for the same reason as claim 6. Moreover, claim 7 adds further features and limitations which renders it separately allowable.

Claims 8-12 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claim 8 has been amended to overcome this rejection. Accordingly, claim 8 is allowable.

Claims 9-16 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 8 and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 8. Moreover, these claims add further features and limitations which render them separately allowable.

Claims 17-20 were objected to as being rejected upon a rejected base claim and were indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims. Claim 17 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1. Accordingly, claim 17 is allowable.


Claims 18-20 all depend either directly or indirectly from claim 17 and are allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 17. New claim 21 also depends from claim 17. Moreover, these claims also add further features and limitations which render them separately allowable.

Applicant submits that the claims are now in a condition for allowance, and respectfully request a notice to that effect. If the Examiner believes that further discussions will advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is highly encourage to telephone Applicant's attorney at the number given below.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees and credit any overpayments as a result of the filing of this paper to the Deposit Account of Applicants' assignee, Ford Global Technologies LLC, Deposit Account No. 06-1510. A duplicate copy of this Paper is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

V. DURGA NAGESWAR RAO

By 
Michael S. Brodbine
Reg. No. 38,392
Attorney for Applicant

Date: September 8, 2003

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351